

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/681,139	YOSHIDA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Milton Nelson, Jr.	3636	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Applicant's amendment filed 10/08/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-13 and 15-22.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☒ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☒ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                     | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Oath/Declaration***

The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The declaration is defective because:

Non-initialed and/or non-dated alterations have been made to the declaration. See 37 CFR 1.52(c). Note page 3 of 3, which includes crossed-out matter that has not been initialed.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 2-13 and 15-22 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Regarding claim 2, the prior art of record fails to show a child seat for a vehicle wherein the shaft includes at least one slit configured to accept a seat belt wherein the at least one slit includes a lap belt slit configured to accept a lap belt and a shoulder belt slit configured to accept a shoulder belt, in combination with other specifically claimed features.

Regarding claim 4, the prior art of record fails to show a child seat for a vehicle wherein the shaft includes at least one slit configured to accept a seat belt wherein the shaft extends in a vertical direction, in combination with other specifically claimed features.

Regarding claim 8, the prior art of record fails to show a child seat for a vehicle wherein the drive train includes a rotatable shaft and a torque limiting device; wherein the shaft includes at least one slit configured to accept a seat belt; and wherein the torque limiting device is configured to prevent torque exerted on the shaft from exceeding a predetermined value, in combination with other specifically claimed features.

Regarding claim 15, the prior art of record fails to show an attachment mechanism for securing a child seat to a vehicle using a seat belt, wherein the shaft includes at least one slit configured to accept the seat belt, wherein the at least one slit

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includes a lap belt slit configured to accept a lap belt and a shoulder belt slit configured to accept a shoulder belt, in combination with other specifically claimed features.

Regarding claim 18, the prior art of record fails to show an attachment mechanism for securing a child seat to a vehicle using a seat belt including a torque limiting device, wherein the torque limiting device is configured to prevent torque exerted on the shaft from exceeding a predetermined value, in combination with other specifically claimed features.

### ***Conclusion***

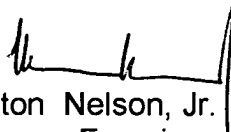
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. McNeff (2003/0127894) shows a belt tensioner arrangement for a child safety seat.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Milton Nelson, Jr. whose telephone number is 7033082117. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 5:30-3:00.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Milton Nelson, Jr.  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3636

mn  
January 8, 2005